

# APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING HISTORY DATA TO SELLERS ABOUT INTERNET AUCTIONS AND MARKETPLACES

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## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method and apparatus to allow sellers at online auctions to optimize the way they sell items and get the best possible price for the items. The invention provides a method for searching a database for data on previous sales of similar items at online auction websites. The data can then be summarized and graphed. Using this data, the seller can make his own conclusions about the best way to sell his item, or he can get a recommendation from the invention about the best way to sell the item. If data about similar items are not available in the database, the invention allows the seller to start an agent program that will search various auction sites for the data over a period of time.